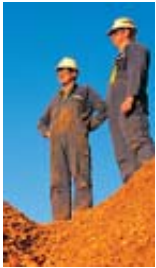




Department of **Consumer
and Employment Protection**

Resources Safety Division



Road transport in receptacles of 500 L or kg or less – Dangerous goods safety guidance note T07/08

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Introduction

When dangerous goods are transported by road in receptacles with a capacity of 500 litres or less or net mass of 500 kilograms or less (i.e. ≤ 500 L or kg), certain duties and obligations apply under the Dangerous Goods Safety (Road and Rail Transport of Non-explosives) Regulations 2007 and *Australian Dangerous Goods Code, Seventh Edition* (ADG7) to ensure the goods are transported safely.

This guidance note assists those transporting packaged dangerous goods on Western Australian roads to comply with the relevant requirements.

It does not apply to transport:

- of explosives and infectious or radioactive substances;
- on roads excluded from public access;
- of retail distribution loads that comply fully with ADG7 chapter 7.3; and
- where the aggregate quantity of the dangerous goods in the load is less than 25 per cent of the placard load limit, and the dangerous goods are being transported by someone who is not in the dangerous goods transport business.

If your receptacle has a capacity or net mass greater than 500 L/kg, refer to Dangerous Goods Safety Guidance Note T08.

Note: As a transitional measure, either ADG6 or ADG7 may be followed until 31 December 2009. ADG7 takes full effect from 1 January 2010.

Duties

Anyone involved in dangerous goods transport tasks has a duty of care to ensure that the goods are transported in a safe manner. In addition to the vehicle requirements, everyone involved in the transport operation must be sufficiently trained and competent to undertake tasks safely.

Contracting or subcontracting tasks related to the transport of dangerous goods does not relieve consignors and prime contractors of their responsibility to ensure that the dangerous goods are transported safely and in accordance with the legislative requirements. If you are contracting out work relating to the transport of dangerous goods, you need to ensure that:

- contractors meet the requirements of the legislation; and
- all persons employed by contractors are sufficiently trained and competent to undertake all tasks safely.

All responsible parties involved in the transport of dangerous goods must comply with procedures for breakdowns, general precautions and recommended routes for transport of dangerous goods in accordance with chapter 13 of ADG7.

Obligations

The obligations that apply for road transport depend on whether the amount of dangerous goods constitutes a placard load or not. For receptacles of ≤ 500 L or kg, the dangerous goods will comprise a *placard load* if:

- there is any quantity of:
 - Division 2.1 (except aerosols),
 - Division 2.3, or
 - Packing Group I of any class or divisionand the aggregate quantity of all dangerous goods in the transport unit is 250 L/kg or more; or
- the aggregate quantity of dangerous goods is 1,000 L/kg or more (e.g. five or more 200 L drums), unless the load is:
 - a retail distribution load that complies with chapter 7.3 of ADG7; or
 - a fumigated transport unit (UN 3359).

Less than a placard load

- Vehicle must be roadworthy and:
 - suitable for transport of the goods;
 - free of defects that may create a risk; and
 - clean.
- Equipment on the vehicle used in loading or unloading dangerous goods:
 - must be suitable for the purpose; and
 - free of defects likely to increase risk in loading or unloading.
- Transport documentation (refer to Dangerous Goods Safety Guidance Note T02) to be carried, except where the aggregate quantity of the dangerous goods in the load is less than 25 per cent of the placard limit, and the dangerous goods are not being transported in the course of a business of transporting goods by road.
- Dangerous goods are to be stowed and restrained securely on the vehicle.
- Packagings and overpacks are to be appropriately marked.
- Segregation of Divisions 2.3 and 6.1 and Class 8 dangerous goods is required in accordance with ADG7 if these goods are transported with food or food packaging.
- Driver must be aware of the following responsibilities in an emergency:
 - notify police or fire brigade as soon as possible;
 - notify prime contractor as soon as possible;
 - provide reasonable assistance to emergency services;
 - carry out emergency procedures recommended in the emergency information;
 - carry out procedures as per the emergency plan;

- if there is an escape of flammable dangerous goods, prevent other vehicles, other dangerous goods and any source of ignition from coming within 15 m of the driver's vehicle, or a greater distance if specified in the appropriate emergency information;
- warn any person in the vicinity who may be at risk; and
- prevent or minimise the escape of the dangerous goods into drains, sewers or natural watercourses.

Placard load

In addition to the requirements for non-placard loads, placard loads must meet additional requirements, as listed below.

Vehicles

- Vehicles used to transport placard loads of dangerous goods must have insurance cover of at least \$5,000,000 per event covering:
 - property damage, personal injury and other damage arising out of any fire, explosion, leakage or spillage of dangerous goods in, on or from the vehicle or a container transported on the vehicle; and
 - costs incurred by or on behalf of a government authority in a clean-up operation.

Emergency information and response

- Australian Standard Handbook HB76:2004 *Dangerous Goods – Initial Emergency Response Guide* (SAA/SNZ HB76:2004) or emergency procedure guides covering the dangerous goods being transported and vehicle fire must be carried in the emergency holder in a prominent position in the driver's compartment — preferably on the inside of the driver's door.

Note: Any vehicle carrying a placard load of dangerous goods must be fitted with an emergency information holder marked with the words 'Emergency procedure guides' or 'Emergency information' in red letters at least 10 mm high on a white background. The holder must be secured on the inside of a door of the cabin in a conspicuous position. If this is not possible, it may be positioned adjacent to the door.

- From 1 March 2009, a prime contractor transporting a placard load of dangerous goods in Western Australia must either:
 - be an approved emergency responder; or
 - have a contract with an approved emergency responder.

The role of an emergency responder is to control the clean up response that may result from an incident involving a road vehicle transporting the goods.

Personal protective equipment and safety equipment

- Refer to Dangerous Goods Safety Guidance Note T03 for information.

Placarding

- If only one class or division of dangerous goods is transported, the vehicle must be placarded with the appropriate class or division label, and, if applicable, a subsidiary risk label or labels.

- If more than one class or division of dangerous goods is being transported, the vehicle is required to be placarded with either or both of the following:
 - mixed class labels; or
 - class or division labels for each class or division of dangerous goods and, if necessary, subsidiary risk labels unless a class or division label already indicates the subsidiary risk.
- Size of class labels is 250 mm x 250 mm.
- Location of class or division labels on the vehicle:
 - for rigid vehicles and a semi trailer attached to a prime mover, class or division labels are to be placed at the front and rear of vehicle; and
 - for a combination road vehicle (road-trains and B-doubles), class or division labels are to be placed at the front and rear of the combination, and on each side of each vehicle that forms part of the combination and has a placard load on it.

Segregation

- Incompatible dangerous goods must be segregated in accordance with ADG7 part 9.

Further information

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